

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace all previous versions of the claims with the following listing:

1. (Currently Amended) A chemical liquid supply apparatus comprising:
 - a pump discharging a liquid accommodated in a liquid tank;
 - a filter provided with a pump discharge-side valve and connected to said pump through a pump outlet flow path ~~to which a~~ opened/closed by said pump discharge-side valve ~~for opening/closing the flow path is provided;~~
 - a liquid discharge portion provided with a discharge valve and connected to said filter through a liquid discharge flow path ~~to which a~~ opened/closed by said discharge valve ~~for opening/closing the flow path is provided;~~ and
 - a vacuum source provided with a deaeration valve and communicating with said filter through an exhaust flow path ~~to which a~~ opened/closed by said deaeration valve ~~for opening/closing the flow path is provided.~~
2. (Original) The chemical liquid supply apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:
 - a control means for closing said pump discharge-side valve and said discharge valve and opening said deaeration valve under such a state that said vacuum source is operated.
3. (Previously Presented) The chemical liquid supply apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said exhaust flow path is connected to a vent port formed at said filter, or a primary or secondary side of said filter.
4. (Currently Amended) A deaerating method of a chemical liquid supply apparatus having: a pump discharging a liquid accommodated in a liquid tank; a filter connected to said pump through a pump outlet flow path ~~to which a pump discharge-side valve for opening/closing the flow path is provided~~ provided with a pump discharge-side valve and opened/closed by said pump discharge-side valve; and a liquid discharge portion connected to said filter through a liquid discharge flow path ~~to which a discharge valve for opening/closing the~~

~~flow path is provided~~ provided with a discharge valve and opened / closed by said discharge valve, and discharging the liquid in said liquid tank from said liquid discharge portion, the deaerating method comprising:

a deaerating process of, under such a state that a vacuum source connected to said filter through an exhaust flow path is operated, opening a deaeration valve provided to said exhaust flow path and closing said pump discharge-side valve and said discharge valve to exhaust a gas inside said filter to said exhaust flow path.

5. (Currently Amended) A deaerating method of a chemical liquid supply apparatus having: a pump discharging a liquid by communicating with the liquid accommodated in a liquid tank through a liquid introduction flow path to which a pump inlet-side valve for opening / closing the flow path is provided; a filter connected to said pump through a pump outlet flow path ~~to which a pump discharge-side valve for opening / closing the flow path is provided~~ provided with a pump discharge-side valve and opened / closed by said pump discharge-side valve; and a liquid dispense portion connected to said filter through a liquid discharge flow path ~~to which a discharge valve for opening / closing the flow path is provided~~ provided with a discharge valve and opened / closed by said discharge valve, and dispensing the liquid in said liquid tank from said liquid dispense portion, the deaerating method comprising the processes of:

performing a sucking operation of said pump under such a state that a deaeration valve provided to an exhaust flow path communicating with an inlet side of said filter, said pump inlet-side valve, and said discharge valve are closed and that said pump discharge-side valve is opened; and

performing a discharging operation of said pump under such a state that said deaeration valve and said pump discharge-side valve are opened and that said pump inlet-side valve and said discharge valve are closed.